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Filner Announces Support For Border Health Plan

Congressman Bob Filner today announced that he is supporting a bill that would provide \$235 million in federal funds to address border health issues. The bill has bi-partisan support.

"Health is a huge issue at the Border," said Congressman Filner. "Tens of thousands of families are struggling due to unhealthy environmental conditions, lack of health facilities, and a laundry list of health problems ranging from maternal and child health to behavioral health and substance abuse."

The bill, H.R. 2807 by Congressman Jim Kolbe of Arizona, would allocate \$235 million in federal grants as follows:

- \$200 million in direct health services grants
- \$25 million in bioterrorism preparedness grants
- \$10 million for the U.S. - Mexico Border Health Commission to administer these grants

The grants would be available to state and local governments, public colleges and universities, tribal governments, nonprofit health organizations, and public health entities.

"It's an ongoing challenge to raise awareness about the needs of our border region," said Congressman Filner. "These grants could make a huge difference for so many families."